OF WISCONSIN

NOW NEWS

Volume 12 No. 3

A record bourse - 60 dealers - A record crowd - 2,300 - A record number of exhibits - 112 cases - A gerat program of events. All of these things add up to a first rate numismatic conclave - and this is exactly what the visitor to the 14th Annual N.O.W. Convention encountered. The Waukesha Coin Club, host of this fine event is to be commended! The entire convention was well-run from beginning to end.

Appearances were made by several numismatic dignitaries. Show-goers enjoyed the programs which were conducted by the Franklin Mint and the General Services Administration The Krause Publications hospitality area was a popular way-side for weary conventioneers. A very popular feature of the convention was the elongated coin rolling machine operated on the floor by Chester Rogers of Leachville, Arkansas.

Meetings of several groups were well-attended. These included the Civil War Token Collectors Society, Mid-West Elongated Collectors and the Odd and Curious Society. Thirty interested people attended the exhibit judges seminar which was conducted by Michigan State Numismatic Society President Tom Jones.

INSIDE THE NEWS

N.O.W. embarks on some ambitious and potentially rewarding new programs...Photo Essay of the State Show...King John I USA...Wisconsin Numismatic Ambassadors...Calendar of shows...club news...and more...

Presidents Message

I believe the true measure of an organization is properly gauged in direct proportion to the activity and involvement of its membership. For that reason my efforts through the coming months will be to develop a higher degree of involvement by NOW members in old and new activities, thus fostering greater activity and resulting in greater membership.

One of the first steps taken in this direction is the development of a regional editor format for NOW NEWS, whereby six or seven individuals will share the responsibility for gathering and presenting the materials for this quarterly package. A look at the mast-head in this issue will reveal that the posts for the southeast, southwest, east-central and northeast regions have been filled, but those for the west-central and northern areas are still open. I'd certainly welcome correspondence from any potential volunteers.

At a special interim board meeting held in Milwaukee June 23, during the RCDA Convention, the governors also endorsed the development of two new programs which are certain to prove beneficial to the building of greater involvement. Both are in the developmental stage and we are now actively soliciting volunteers to make them operative.

The first is a statewide Speakers Bureau which will be able to make educational program speakers available to clubs, providing they are willing to reimburse the individuals for their road expenses.

The second is an Exhibit Judges Pool, which will be run on a similar basis. In this case, however, we plan to go a step further by providing a seminar at the annual convention for the instruction of interested members in the fine points of judging, thus providing a forum for building a staff to man the service program.

In my next report a more detailed review and progress report on these programs will be presented to you.

The establishment of a NOW distinguished Service Award was also approved by the board at the June meeting. This new award, which will be presented in certificate form, is intended to provide official recognition of individuals who have given of themselves in special or significant ways to the benefit of the organization and the hobby on a state-wide basis. They will be awarded, up to a maximum of ten per year, at the instigation of the President and Secretary.

Another item on the agenda at the June board meeting was the selection of our 1975 convention site. The nod went to Milwaukee, with the Milwaukee Numismatic Society serving as host at the Red Carpet Inn, May 17-18. The board also began investigating possible sites for the 1976 and 1977 conventions.

A preliminary study of NOW constitution and by-law revisions was also instituted at the June meeting. The revised sections will be reviewed and acted upon by the board at its regular September meeting, which will be held during the annual Milwaukee Numismatic Society fall show, following which the revised constitution and by-laws will be published in the proposed form in NOW NEWS, paving the way for action by the general member-ship at the next annual show.

CONTINUED

I hope to meet many of you who are presently strangers to me in the coming months, and have the opportunity to share in your views of what NOW can and should be doing to foster an even more vibrant coin collecting climate throughout the state. Between Labor Day and the winter holidays I plan to address as many local clubs as scheduling will permit.

If you have a suggestion, or gripe for that matter, which you would like to share with me, however, you need not wait until we meet. In return for your investment of a ten cent stamp, envelope and sheet of paper, plus a few moments of time, I'll promise a quick response.

Cliff Mishler
NOW President

WYN REPORT

The Wisconsin Young Numismatist (WYN) Committee has recently released a statement showing their assests. The WYN Fund is now $360. $300.00 of this total was derieved from Numismafest II last February. Contributions in the amount of $20 have been recieved from the Waukesha, Nicolet and Wisconsin Valley, coin clubs. Other Wisconsin Clubs and individuals are encouraged to offer aid to the fund.

A committee is currently drafting by-laws for the group and is also seeking affiliation with NOW. Future plans call for an expanded Junior Awards Program in Wisconsin and a quarterly journal written by juniors for juniors.

Groups or individuals who wish to contribute to this worth-while program are asked to write to the custodian of funds: Gerald Johnson, 1921 Chase Street, Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin - 54494.

IMPORTANT!

Advertising will be restored to the pages of N.O.W. News starting with the next issue. Collectors and dealers who wish to utilize this service are asked to write to the Editor for information. Space may be reserved in one year contracts only, payable in advance.

Space is limited, so potential users are urged to act immediately to insure a spot. Rates are available for the inside front cover, the inside back cover and the back cover. These spaces will be given to those who have the earliest post mark requesting them. Other space will be selected at random.

IN THE NEWS
50 ISSUES AGO

Gathered about a great round table for lunch were a group of Wisconsin coin collectors at the C.S.N.S. meeting at the Sheraton Cadillac Hotel in Detroit, April, 1959. Their presence there had been a pre-meditated one, for several groups had expressed a desire to do so and I had promised to get the principals together face-to-face in an initial meeting toward getting a state organization for Wisconsin underway.

On that memorable Saturday noon, we had with us: Mr. Robert Branigan of Beloit, Wisconsin, a collector whose presence I'd seen through out the nation; Clayton High of Eau Claire, who in my early years of travel I'd met in New Yok City and several out-of-state convention sites coast to coast. At that time he was an engineer for the U. S. Rubber Company and was able to get to coin gab fests close to his assigned tasks.

There was Russ Porter of Milwaukee, whom I'd met in my early years of numismatic travel, a collector of one of the nicest type sets I recall seeing in all my travels.. Then there was Floyd Janney, a general collector from Waukesha. Mr. Merle Jacoby of Beaver Dam, at that time a heating contractor who since has turned insurance salesman. M. Vernon Sheldon of Chicago was the only outlander there but whose presence we valued highly. All told, there were 8 or 10 of us--my ommission of names here is not intentional, but rather a spasm of forgetfulness. I do hope those who were there will refresh my memory.

This initial gathering dispenced with intentions to meet again in two weeks at Rockford, Illinois at the Layfayette Hotel in conjunction with their coin show. Bob Branigan opened the meeting to a somewhat larger group and heard a proposed set of by-laws read as drafted by Russ Porter. It was at this meeting in Rockford Illinois, that the first application for member-ship was accepted. Further discussions produced plans for the next major move --- to formally organize our state organization. Those of us from Iola were indeed delighted when our invitation to accomplish this at Iola was OK'd.

We were planning an open house July 8th marking completion of an addition to our office. N.O.W. was to officially come into being that day. On the eve of this occasion, several of the principals arrived for further discussions preliminary to marking that memorable event in north central Wis.

Sunday saw more coin collectors than it had before or since!

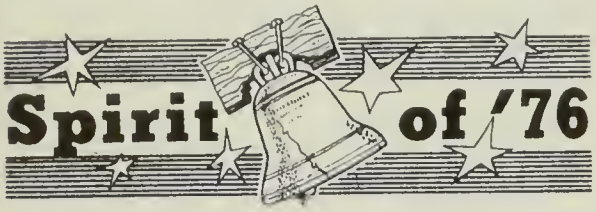
Limited eating facilities were over-come by having arranged to feed our guests (at their expense) at a chicken fry in the local park by the Lions Club. Rains threatened all that day, but nearly 200 were on hand when I, as host, began to call the audience to attention and asked for nominations for our officers. Bob Branigan was elected president by acclimation of all present, for we, as yet, had no formal body.

He then proceeded with the balance of his duties. Membership by the day's end had reached nearly 100. From that day on, collectors of the state had one more element of common ground to talk about, for the idea of months before had become a reality.

EDITORS NOTE

Next Page

Editors Note: This article, authored by Chet Krause, at that time N.O.W. President appeared in Volume 1 number 1 of NOW NEWS. As far as can be determined, the following people were present at the initial meeting in Detroit: Bob Branigan, Joseph Burnette, Art Christoph - Harry Collura, Floyd Janney, Merle Jacoby, Clayton High, Chet Krause, Ralph Parker, Russ Porter, and M Vernon Sheldon.



Russell Rulau

The addition of Russell Rulau to the Krause Publications editorial staff has been announced by Chet Krause. Rulau, an experienced numismatic journalist and one of the country's leading world coin authorities, who for the past ten years has served as editor of "World Coins" assumed his duties as editor of "World Coin News" on May 1st.

Born in Chicago and raised in Milwaukee, Rulau, 47, has been an avid coin collector since he received, as a 12 year old, a handful of U.S. and foreign coins from a great aunt.

Rulau's numismatic accomplishments over the past two decades have been many. A charter member of TAMS and a founder of the California Exonumist Society, In October 1960 he concieved the term- "exonumist" as a descriptive term for collectors of non-government issued numismatic items. Eight years later he unveiled another term "checkophile," to describe collectors of checks and related fiscal paper.

The author of hundreds of general and definitive numismatic articles, Rulau is author of the book "Modern World Mintmarks" and has been editorial coordinator for "How to Order Foreign Coins." He is also co-author of the standard reference on American Game Counters, and his most recent scholarly effort is a catalog of "Early Tokens of the Queen City, Cinncinnati" which began appearing serially in the April 1974 TAMS Journal.

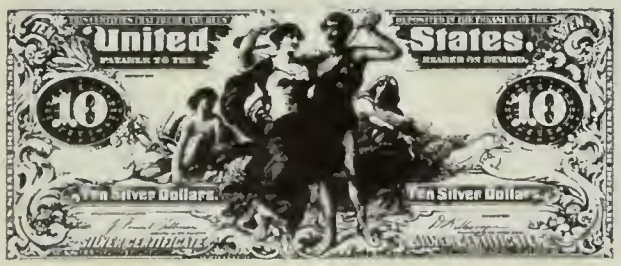
An inactive member of the Air Force Reserve, Rulau ended 18 yrs. of service with the U.S. Army and Air Force in 1962 to become a full time numismatic writer. President Nixon appointed him to serve on the U.S. Assay Commission which met at the Philadelphia Mint in February, 1973.

NCW DRAWS MANY

The fiftieth anniversary of National Coin Week has been deemed the most outstanding celebration in the history of the event. Thousands of individuals and coin clubs participated; proclamations were issued by the President, governors, mayors and numerous other dignitaries with clubs doing outstanding work to promote activity.

Maurice M. Gould, 1974 N.C.W. chairman stated, "Never in the many years of involvement in National Coin Week has there been so much individual and club participation. The response has been far beyond the ANA's and my expectations and I wish to thank all of the individuals and groupd who participated in the Golden Anniversary of National Coin Week."

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
BUREAU OF ENGRAVING AND PRINTING
WASHINGTON, D.C.



This print is a reproduction of the obverse of a proposed $10 Silver Certificate, designated Series of 1897, originally intended for issuance in conjunction with the $1, $2, and $5 notes of the 1896, or Educational, series of Silver Certificates.

The engraving of the vignette, entitled "Agriculture and Forestry," was executed by Charles Schlecht, based upon the design submitted by Walter Shirlaw, a Scottish-born artist, illustrator, and engraver. Mr. Shirlaw also had been commissioned to prepare the design for the $5 note of the Educational series.

The $10 notes were not printed since bills of that denomination were not specifically provided for in the Act of Congress of August 4, 1886 which authorized the 1896 series of notes.

AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION
83RD ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION—AUGUST 13-18, 1974
BAL HARBOUR, FLORIDA

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1974 ANA CARD

Mr. James A. Conlon, Director of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing has announced that, in recognition of its national significance - a numismatic exhibit, and a live demonstration of the art of intaglio printing on a hand press will be provided by the Bureau at the 83rd annual convention of the American Numismatic Association to be held August 13-18, 1974 at Bal Harbour, Florida. A souvenir card, in honor of the occasion, also will be made available to the public at the convention.

The subject of the souvenir card will be a reproduction of the face of a $10 Silver Certificate, designated as Series of 1897, originally intended for issuance in conjunction with the $1, $2, and $5 notes of the 1896 or Educational, series of Silver Certificates. The $10 certificates were not printed, however, since bills of that denomination were not specifically provided for in the Act of Congress of August 4, 1886, which authorized the 1896 series of notes.

Prints of the card, priced at $1 each and limited to not more than 5 per customer, also may be ordered by mail from the Bureau of Engraving and Printing for delivery after August 13th. Customers are requested to place their orders as soon as possible to permit the accomplishment of as much advance processing as possible. In addition, a delay of as much as six weeks may be anticipated for filling some of the requests.

Mail orders, accompanied by the proper remittance in the form of a check or money order payable to the B.E.P. should be addressed to ANA '74 Card, B.E.P., Washington, D.C., 20228. Customers are requested not to send cash with their orders.

BEST AT NOW

Mrs. Ron Calkins, of Mazomanie, Wisconsin became the first woman to take the N.O.W. Best in Show Award. Phyliss grabbed the award with her highly educational exhibit of Indian post trade tokens and medias of exchange. This exhibit, considered the finest to appear in the last few years in Wisconsin by many people, utilises fine wood-craft, a striking back-ground and in depth information. Not only did she take the best in show honor, but she was also the winner of the Delores Stratton Memorial Award for the most educational display. This coveted "black plaque" has only been won by two other people: Virgil Jackson, and Jack Huggins. A great day for Mrs. Calkins, and a great day for Wisconsin collectors for having the opportunity to view such a fine numismatic display!

Central States

A.P. (Del) Bertschy former N.O.W. Governor from Milwaukee, has been named to serve as the Second Vice President of the Central States Numismatic Society. The announcement was made by newly elected CSNS President, Dan Parker in Detroit in May. Del was chosen to take the VP post which was left vacant due to A death on the Central States Board.

At the same event, Kurt Krueger, N.O.W. Governor and Editor was declared among the winners in the election for the C.S.N.S. Board of Governors. Bertschy, Krueger and the other members of the Central States Board were sworn into their office by O. H. Dodson in special ceremonies at the Detroit Hilton.

ELECTION '74

Competition was keen in the 1974 N.O.W. election. A record vote was cast by the membership. Cliff Mishler is our new President. Gale Highsmith is our Vice President. Those elected to serve on the Board were Kurt Krueger, Marion Anderson, Virgil Jackson and Fritz Voecks. Outgoing President Richard Anderson appointed Ken Bressett to fill the unexpired two year term of Gale Highsmith. President Mishler has appointed Harold Collins to fill the one year term of Gerald Johnson who resigned in April.

NEW EDITOR

After a brilliant tenure, Gene Johnson announced that due to conflicting interests, he would resign his duties as N.O.W. NEWS Editor. This decision was made only after much careful thought, Johnson related. Assuming the duties of Editor is Kurt Krueger, former NOW Secretary. Krueger will have a staff of people around the state working with him in compiling the future issues of NOW NEWS.

NEW SECRETARY

Mrs. Betty Finner of Iola has been appointed by Cliff Mishler to serve as the Secretary-Treasurer of N.O.W. Mrs. Finner is the wife of Rollie Finner, noted photographer - and Editor of the Central States Numismatic Society quarterly, the "Centinel". "Because of her husbands close ties with the numismatic world, Mrs. Finner is an ideal person to assume the duties of this post", Mishler stated.

NOW - A GREAT GROUP!

Above - Waukesha Club President Leo Neidinger presents the N.O.W. Junior B.O.S. to Steve Helms.

Upper Left - Dealer Roger Radtke of Oak Creek works on a hot deal.

Center Left - Associate NOW NEWS Editor Peter Phillips chats with Mrs. Dan Wiseman.

Lower Left - Michigan State Numismatic Society President Tom Jones and ANA V.P. George Hatie congratulate co-chairman Krueger on the highly successful NOW Convention.

Above - WYN Chairman Kurt Krueger presents the 1974 Wisconsin Young Numismatist of the Year Award to Steve Helms of Beaver Dam.

Upper Right - President Mishler at the NOW Table renews the dues of Racine exhibitor Bruno Melitz.

Center Right - Cliff Mishler presents the Krause Publications Numismatic Ambassador Award to the Jacksons.

Lower Right - N.O.W. Board members pause for group photo at Waukesha.

MERIT AWARD

Chet Krause, NOW number one, was named the winner of the 1974 NOW Award of Merit. Krause, a hobby stalwart for longer than most folks can remember, was instrumental in forming our state group. Throughout the years, Chet has come to the aid of NOW in many ways.

Krause joins Harold Prieve, Mike Segersin, Kurt Krueger, Ray Phillips, Gene Johnson and Cliff Mishler as winner of the states top numismatic award.

AMBASSADORS

The Waukesha NOW Show was the scene of a special award from Cliff Mishler on behalf of Krause Publications. At this event, Virgil and Daisy Jackson were presented with the "Numismatic Ambassador" award.

Mishler cited the activities of the couple over the past decade. The Jacksons are best known for their suberb numismatic displays. Mishler also told of the educational programs the couple has put on, and their assistance on the organizational level in Wisconsin. The Jacksons were commended for the positive influence which they have imparted here and elsewhere.

NOW EXHIBIT

BOS.....Mrs. Ron Calkins
1st.....Stewart Koeppal
1st.....Kurt R. Krueger
1st.....Stweart Koeppal
1st.....Leo Neidinger
1st.....Ron Calkins
2nd.....Richard Phelps
2nd.....Irene Neidinger
2nd.....George Marks
2nd.....Leo Neidinger
2nd.....Louis Snyder
3rd.....William Fuchs
3rd.....Richard Phelps
3rd.....William Fuchs
3rd.....Bruno Melitz
3rd.....Bruno Melitz

JR. BOS.....Steve Helms
JR. 1st.....Tom Neidinger
JR. 2nd.....Ann Loomis
JR. 3rd.....Tom Neidinger

Delores Stratton Memorial Award to Most Educational Exhibit.....
Mrs. Ron Calkins.....The Traders

A. N. A. 83rd ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION
Bal Harbour, Florida August 13-18, 1974

SHOW DATES

Aug. 18.....Baraboo
Sept. 8.....Oconomowoc
.....La Crosse
Oct. 13.....Manitowoc
Oct. 20.....Appleton
Feb. 20-21.....Numismafest III
Mar. 23.....Madison
Apl. 6.....Beaver Dam
.....South Shore
Apl. 13.....Appleton
Apl. 20.....Wausau
Apl. 27.....Waukesha
May 17-18.....NOW Milwaukee

ATTENTION: Club secretaries, mail your 1974 show date to the NOW Editor and the Secretary.

SUPPORT YOUR NOW

BAILEY BAGS BRADFIELD

Free lance writer, Clement F. "Clem" Bailey, Iola, Wisconsin was named the recipient of the 1974 Elston G. Bradfield Literary Award for contributions to the Centinel - the official organ of the Central States Numismatic Society. The award, sponsored by the Lewis M. Reagan Memorial Foundation, Inc., was announced by Rollie Finner, Editor of The Centinel. This makes two years in a row that the award has gone to a NOW member. The 1973 winner was L. Finch Booker of St. Paul, Minnesota.

1975 RED BOOK

Western Publishing Co. of Racine recently released their 1975 edition of A Guide Book of U.S. Coins. This years "Red Book" features many price changes and better photos of several items. A special in depth look at late date U.S. Proof Sets is featured in the book. NOW member Richard Yeoman is the author of this book, which is considered the "Bible" by many. Several NOW members are contributors to the text.

PHILO FOOTE

Philo A. Foote, a well-known Fond du Lac coin and stamp collector died March 30, 1974. Mr Foote was one of the founders of the Fond du Lac Collectors' Club, and served as secretary and as an official in many Fond du Lac coin club events. In addition he was an avid researcher in the Fond du Lac Postal History Club. He held a membership in the Society of US Philatelics, and held number 493 in Numismatists of Wisconsin. He was 80 years of age.

* * *

KING JOHN the FIRST

(of the U. S. A. ?)

by Clement F. Bailey

Ever heard of King John I of the United States? Nobody else ever heard of him either - until Numismatic News recieved an ad from him back in July, of 1964. The ad went this way, "1964 King John I penny copper, U. S. A. 1. Great item for investment. King John I."

Ed Rochette at the time was editor of Numismatic News and immediately wanted more information about not only the ad but - King John I.

The exchange of correspondence extended for more than a year, then started. The reply from King John I - actually Narcez John Gedwell - indicated that the token or medal was being made by Medallic Art Co.

"It symbolizes the hope for mankind, it enhances the American dream that anyone can become President, and it is proof that Truth and Courage can beat City Hall." So said King John I.

He went on to say, "the advent of a King in American politics need not be viewed with foreboding, liken it to the impartical umpire that watches the ball-game. Three Presidents lacked the courage to have coffee with me."

He not only claimed he issued the penny but he countersigned one dollar notes with "King John 1st" across the face to make them valid pieces of paper money. He was also willing "to give U. S. sovereignty back to Jack Kennedy for only a cup of black coffee."

Ed Rochette wrote back to King John I and asked him how he proposed to become King of America suggesting that a write in vote on the November ballot might be the way.

The answers were quick and to the point. "I do not propose to become King, when I already am; but I will patiently allow the intelligence of Americans to catch up with history already made." The statement was signed "His American Majesty."

In the meantime, the ad was not run in Numismatic News and this bit of inaction prompted another missile from King John I.

"I don't see my ad: Reserve 1964 King John I, penny copper number 1 U. S. A. What happened? Wake up Mac!"

Rochette had written to Medallic Art Company and found that the piece had not been ordered. His answer to King John I went something like this: "Let it not be said that Numismatic News fears to run your ad. It is just that our common minds can not comprehend your great intentions with it. While doing additional research I find that the very secrecy you have so often mentioned has crept into our history books, nowhere can I find how you became 'King'."

This additional effort by Ed Rochette to obtain some solid guidelines as to the Kingly status of King John I failed. It did produce this little gem from King John I. "Yokelism is rampant in our domain, my subjects are susceptible to the new crop of Barnums and the very pitches they eminate."

In the meantime, the Washington Daily News reported that a picture taken of King John I in their editorial offices was taken while King John I was trying to get the paper to print his story - which they failed to do.

By late November, 1964 Rochette had still failed to get the information he wanted from King John I

which was to be included in the series Politicana Americana then running in Numismatic News - although bits and pieces of information were obtained from other sources.

All that appears to be left of the incident are the notes that carry "King John 1st" across the face - to make them valid. Never did we see any of the "King John" coppers, although they may exist.

As King of the United States he did leave his mark on our American history as every house-hold does have an important room named for King John the First.

* * *

Odds & Ends

by the editor

Former NOW Board Member Fred Voecks is in great shape following open heart surgery at the end of July.

And the war continues between the editors of the Oconomowoc and Waukesha newsletters. It seems that a conflict began when both editors... proclaimed their paper the finest.. in the same month!

The Fishbowl Wooden Nickel Coin Club was organized recently in Siren, Wis., with John Hansen being named President. Jerome Bruce was named secretary, and James Waldren, was named V.P. Dues are $1 per yr.

The Fox Valley Coin Club of Appleton will be helping to organize a coin show for the benefit of children with learning disabilities on October 20th at Xavier High School.

Many thanks to Krause Publications, Robert F. Krueger, Mike Segersin, Dennis Loomis, Clem Bailey and club secretaries for their help with NOW News - any help is appreciated.

* * *

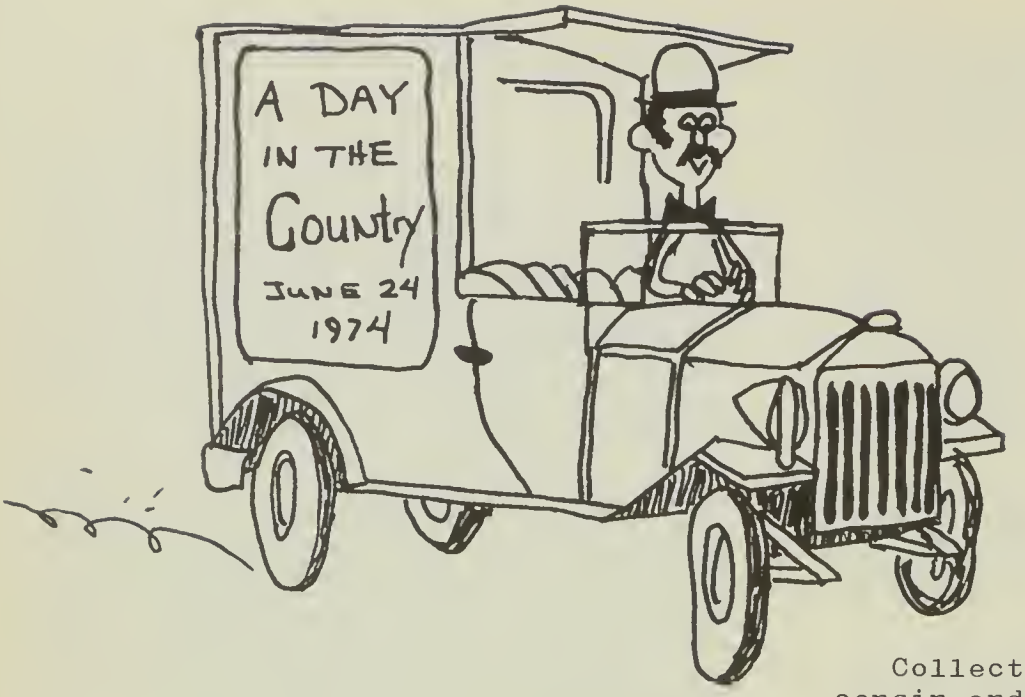
EAGER BEAVER

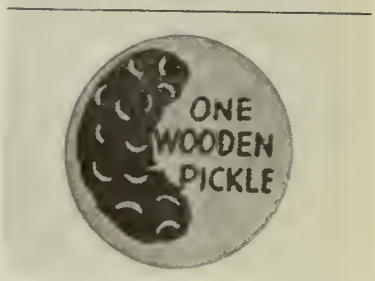
The Beaver Coin Club was well recognized at the NOW Convention held in Waukesha. Two Beaver Dam youths won three awards in the junior division of the convention. Steve Helms took Junior Best in Show trophy with his exhibit of the morgan dollar. Anne Loomis took a Junior Second with her study of the Illegal Coins of Lundy.

Helms has been active in the Beaver Coin Club for several years and currently serves as the club's secretary. In recognition for his work in the local club and his many fine exhibits about the state, the WYN Committee selected Steve the Outstanding Young Numismatist of the year. The presentation was made at the Sunday Breakfast by WYN Chairman Kurt Krueger.

Also honored at the convention were Virgil and Daisy Jackson of Beaver Dam. Cliff Mishler of Iola, told of their many accomplishments through the years and then awarded the coveted Krause Publications Numismatic Ambassador Award to the surprised couple.

- Dennis Loomis





Collectors from throughout Wisconsin and the nation flocked to Iola for an easy day in the country on June 24th, following the close of the RCDA Convention in Milwaukee June 21-23.

Some 125 people were treated to open-pit barbecued chicken at the invitation of publisher Chester Krause. A day of fun, under the sun provided a completely relaxed atmosphere!

Ed Rochette, ANA Executive Director seems glad to be "home", as he chats with ANA President Virginia Culver and past President John Pittman. (Photo at Left)

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NUMISMATISTS OF WISCONSIN
MRS. BETTY FINNER
P.O. BOX 296
IOLA, WISCONSIN 54945

A Ha! Your NOW Dues Are In Arrears!